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2 September 1966

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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Communist China: The managers of the Chinese Communist party machine have been further degraded and apparently face an intensified purge.

On 31 August, in a speech before a huge Red Guard rally attended by Mao, Lin Piao declared that the "main targets" for new attacks were "those in power who have wormed their way into the party and are taking the capitalist road." He declared that the Guards--an instrument outside the party--were the "shock force" of the intensified revolutionary drive and a "powerful reserve" of the People's Liberation Army.

Events at the rally underscore the shift in the Chinese internal power structure which appears to have upgraded military men, and perhaps to a lesser extent leaders whose primary role is in the government. Military officials and government administrators were present in large numbers among the leaders appearing with Mao. Major figures in the army were given place ahead of senior party machine men in the motorcade which preceded the rally.

However, NCNA subsequently issued a revision of the original news release covering the rally which included a paragraph restating the general order of precedence established at the 18 August rally--apparently to quell speculation that the order of appearance in the motorcade reflected another radical change in the hierarchy.

Lin and Premier Chou En-lai were the major speakers. Their remarks slighted the role of the regular party machinery in the "cultural revolution" and stressed the importance of intensified activity by the Red Guards. Chou's speech suggests that they will have a major and continuing function. The Guards were, however, cautioned to rely on "reason" rather than force and to maintain firm discipline. Lin declared that it was impossible to reach the "souls" of the people by coercion and called for strict adherence to the army's rules of conduct.

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United Nations: Secretary General Thant's decision not to accept re-election when his term expires on 3 November has presented the UN with an exceptionally difficult task of finding a qualified successor acceptable to all the major powers.

There are no strong candidates in sight. Several Latin Americans have been suggested, including Garcia Robles and Cuevas Cancino of Mexico and Raul Prebisch of Argentina. There may also be sentiment among the African delegations for an African candidate such as Adebo of Nigeria, Slim of Tunisia, or D'Arboussier of Senegal.

The search is likely to be long. Nigeria plans to take the lead in requesting an early Security Council meeting to consider the situation.

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Brazil: Conservative leader Carlos Lacerda has again strongly attacked the government, calling for its overthrow by force if necessary.

The latest and most critical outburst in Lacerda's campaign to provoke a political crisis appeared in the magazine Visao on 31 August. The article, appealing to Brazilian nationalism, charges that the regime has become subservient to the US and has turned vital decisions over to "American advisers, the CIA, and the International Monetary Fund."

Lacerda calls for the opposition to unite and to use all methods, even an "appeal to arms," to replace the regime. His proposals to end the regime's "usurpation" include a return to free elections, changes in economic and foreign policies, reforms in agriculture and in the armed forces, and a "dismounting" of the political and economic oligarchies.

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In the past President Castello Branco has ignored Lacerda's outbursts, but it appears likely that the administration will take action against this latest challenge, which approaches subversion. Lacerda's charges come at a time when elections are imminent. New governors will be chosen in 12 of the 22 states tomorrow, and national elections will follow in October and November. Public dissatisfaction with the regime is widespread, but the military, the regime's power base, is still loyal to the President.

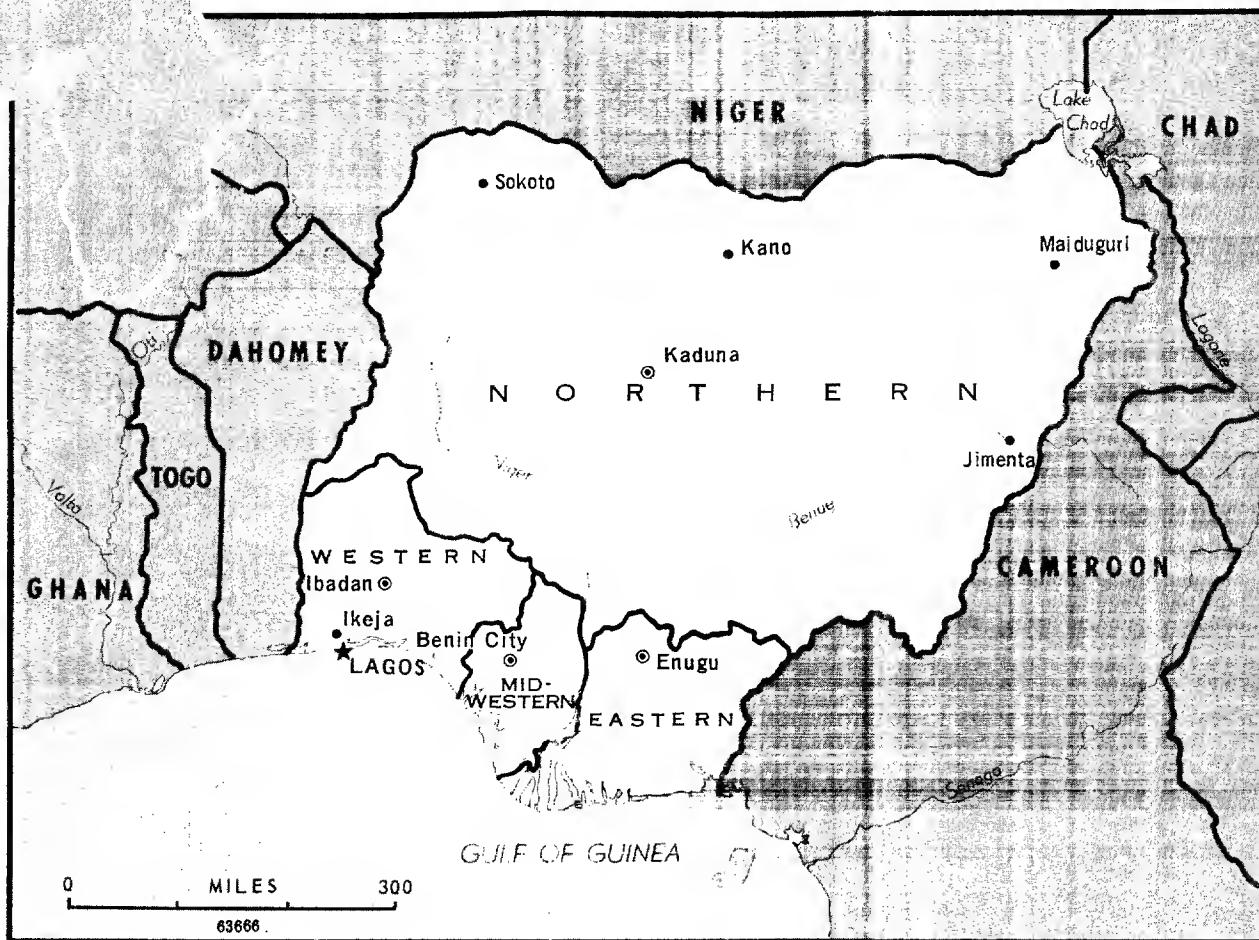
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NIGERIA



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2 Sep 66 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN Map

NOTES

Burundi - Communist China: Burundi has announced its support of the entry of Peking into the UN and may be planning to renew diplomatic relations. Burundi broke with the Chinese in January 1965, when the former king became convinced that Peking was trying to subvert his government. The new government of Prime Minister Micombero contains many young extremists who distrust the US and favor closer ties with Communist nations. [redacted]

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Nigeria: Supreme Commander Gowon's continuing inability to establish firm control over hard-core Northern military elements is undermining efforts to preserve the Nigerian union. The depredations of these troops against Easterners in the Lagos area and in the Northern Region have greatly aroused Eastern authorities. More incidents seem inevitable. Eastern participation in the constitutional talks now planned for later this month--which Eastern Military Governor Ojukwu has already threatened to boycott for security reasons--is becoming less likely. [redacted] (Map)

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